GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2412
ANSWERED ON:05.12.2001
BHARAT SANCHAR NIGAM LIMITED
MINATI SEN;SUBODH ROY

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited(BSNL) is not being permitted to start value added service especially Cellular Service deliberately with the intention to eventually make out a case for its privatisation; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) DOT has already granted licence of Cellular Mobile Service to BSNL for all the service areas in the country except for Delhi and Mumbai as MTNL is having licence for these two areas. BSNL is free to start the service & in fact they have already started cellular mobile services in Bihar and Kolkata.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.